



**AMENDMENT TO
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT
BY AND BETWEEN
SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE, L.P. d/b/a SBC MISSOURI
AND
PHONE-LINK, INC.**

Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P.¹ d/b/a SBC Missouri, as the Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier in Missouri, (hereafter, "ILEC") and Phone-Link, Inc., as a Competitive Local Exchange Carrier ("CLEC") in Missouri, (referred to as "CARRIER"), in order to amend, modify and supersede any affected provisions of their Interconnection Agreement with ILEC in Missouri ("Interconnection Agreement"), hereby execute this Reciprocal Compensation Amendment for ISP-Bound Traffic and Federal Telecommunications Act Section 251(b)(5) Traffic (Adopting FCC's Interim ISP Terminating Compensation Plan) ("Amendment"). CLEC is also referred to as a "LEC."

1.0 Scope of Amendment

- 1.1 ILEC made an offer to all telecommunications carriers in the state of Missouri (the "Offer") to exchange traffic on and after June 1, 2004 under Section 251(b)(5) of the Act pursuant to the terms and conditions of the FCC's interim ISP terminating compensation plan of the FCC's Order on Remand and Report and Order, In the Matter of Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Intercarrier Compensation for ISP-Bound Traffic, FCC 01-131, CC Docket Nos. 96-98, 99-68 (rel. April 27, 2001) ("FCC ISP Compensation Order") which was remanded but not vacated in *WorldCom, Inc. v. FCC*, No. 01-1218 (D.C. Cir. 2002).
- 1.2 The purpose of this Amendment is to include in CARRIER's Interconnection Agreement the rates, terms and conditions of the FCC's interim ISP terminating compensation plan for the exchange of ISP-Bound traffic lawfully compensable under the FCC ISP Compensation Order ("ISP-Bound Traffic") and traffic lawfully compensable under Section 251(b)(5) ("Section 251(b)(5) Traffic").
- 1.3 This Amendment is intended to supersede any and all contract sections, appendices, attachments, rate schedules, or other portions of the underlying Interconnection Agreement that set forth rates, terms and conditions for the terminating compensation for ISP-Bound Traffic and Section 251(b)(5) Traffic exchanged between ILEC and CARRIER. Any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Amendment and provisions of the underlying Interconnection Agreement shall be governed by the provisions of this Amendment.

2.0 Rates, Terms and Conditions of FCC's Interim Terminating Compensation Plan for ISP-Bound Traffic and Section 251(b)(5) Traffic.

- 2.1 ILEC and CARRIER hereby agree that the following rates, terms and conditions shall apply to ISP-Bound Traffic and Section 251(b)(5) Traffic exchanged between the Parties on and after the date this Amendment becomes effective pursuant to Section 4.1 of this Amendment. Notwithstanding anything contrary in this Amendment, all Metropolitan Calling Area (MCA) Traffic shall remain under a bill and keep arrangement pursuant to the Missouri Public Service Commission Order in Case No. TO-99-483.
- 2.2 Reciprocal Compensation Rate Schedule for ISP-Bound Traffic and Section 251(b)(5) Traffic:

¹ On December 30, 2001, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (a Missouri corporation) was merged with and into Southwestern Bell Texas, Inc. (a Texas corporation) and, pursuant to Texas law, was converted to Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P., a Texas limited partnership. Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P. is now doing business in Missouri as SBC Missouri.

2.2.1 The rates, terms, conditions in this section apply only to the termination of ISP-Bound Traffic and Section 251(b)(5) Traffic, and ISP-Bound Traffic is subject to the growth caps in Section 2.3, the new market restrictions in Section 2.4 and rebuttable presumption in Section 2.6. Notwithstanding anything contrary in this Amendment, the growth caps in Section 2.3, the new market restrictions in Section 2.4 and the rebuttable presumption in Section 2.6 only apply to LECs and ILEC.

2.2.2 The Parties agree to compensate each other for the transport and termination of ISP-Bound Traffic and Section 251(b)(5) Traffic on a minute of use basis, at \$.0007 per minute of use.

2.3 ISP-Bound Traffic Minutes Growth Cap

2.3.1 On a calendar year basis, as set forth below, LEC and ILEC agree to cap overall compensable Missouri ISP-Bound Traffic minutes of use in the future based upon the 1st Quarter 2001 ISP-Bound Traffic minutes for which LEC was entitled to compensation under its Missouri Interconnection Agreement(s) in existence for the 1st Quarter of 2001, on the following schedule.

Calendar Year 2001	1st Quarter 2001 compensable ISP-Bound minutes, times 4, times 1.10
Calendar Year 2002	Year 2001 compensable ISP-Bound minutes, times 1.10
Calendar Year 2003	Year 2002 compensable ISP-Bound minutes
Calendar Year 2004	Year 2002 compensable ISP-Bound minutes
Calendar Year 2005 and thereafter	Year 2002 compensable ISP-Bound minutes

Notwithstanding anything contrary herein, in Calendar Year 2004, CLEC and ILEC agree that ISP-Bound Traffic exchanged between CLEC and ILEC during the entire period from January 1, 2004 until December 31, 2004 shall be counted towards determining whether LEC has exceeded the growth caps for Calendar Year 2004

2.3.2 ISP-Bound Traffic minutes that exceed the applied growth cap will be Bill and Keep. "Bill and Keep" refers to an arrangement in which neither of two interconnecting Parties charges the other for terminating traffic that originates on the other network.

2.4 Bill and Keep for ISP-Bound Traffic in New Markets

2.4.1 In the event LEC and ILEC have not previously exchanged ISP-Bound Traffic in any one or more Missouri LATAs prior to April 18, 2001, Bill and Keep will be the reciprocal compensation arrangement for all ISP-Bound Traffic between LEC and ILEC for the remaining term of this Agreement in any such Missouri LATAs.

2.4.2 Wherever Bill and Keep is the traffic termination arrangement between LEC and ILEC, both Parties shall segregate the Bill and Keep traffic from other compensable local traffic either (a) by excluding the Bill and Keep minutes of use from other compensable minutes of use in the monthly billing invoices, or (b) by any other means mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

2.5 The Growth Cap and New Market Bill and Keep arrangement applies only to ISP-Bound Traffic, and does not include Optional Calling Area traffic, IntraLATA Interexchange traffic, or InterLATA Interexchange traffic.

2.6 ISP-Bound Traffic Rebuttable Presumption

In accordance with Paragraph 79 of the FCC's ISP Compensation Order, LEC and ILEC agree that there is a rebuttable presumption that any of the combined Section 251(b)(5) Traffic and ISP-Bound Traffic exchanged between LEC and ILEC exceeding a 3:1 terminating to originating ratio is presumed to be ISP-Bound Traffic subject to the compensation and growth cap terms in this Section 2.0. Either party has the right to rebut the 3:1

ISP presumption by identifying the actual ISP-Bound Traffic by any means mutually agreed by the Parties, or by any method approved by the Commission. If a Party seeking to rebut the presumption takes appropriate action at the Commission pursuant to section 252 of the Act and the Commission agrees that such Party has rebutted the presumption, the methodology and/or means approved by the Commission for use in determining the ratio shall be utilized by the Parties as of the date of the Commission approval and, in addition, shall be utilized to determine the appropriate true-up as described below. During the pendency of any such proceedings to rebut the presumption, LEC and ILEC will remain obligated to pay the presumptive rates (the rates set forth in Section 2.2.2 for Section 251(b)(5) Traffic and traffic above the ratio, subject to growth caps) subject to a true-up upon the conclusion of such proceedings. Such true-up shall be retroactive back to the date a Party first sought appropriate relief from the Commission.

3.0 Reservation of Rights

- 3.1 The Parties reserve the right to raise the appropriate treatment of Voice Over Internet Protocol ("VoIP") and traffic utilizing in whole or part Internet Protocol technology under the Dispute Resolution provisions of this Agreement, including but not limited, to any rights they may have as a result of the FCC's Order *In the Matter of Petition for Declaratory Ruling that AT&T's Phone-to-Phone IP Telephony Services are Exempt from Access Charges*, WC Docket No. 02-361 (Rel. April 21, 2004). The Parties acknowledge that there is an on-going disagreement between LECs and ILEC over whether or not, under the law, VoIP traffic or traffic utilizing in whole or part IP technology is subject to reciprocal compensation or switched access charges. The Parties therefore agree that neither one will argue or take the position before any regulatory commission or court that this Amendment constitutes an agreement as to whether or not reciprocal compensation or switched access charges apply to that traffic or a waiver by either party of their position or their rights as to that issue. The Parties further agree that they each have reserved the right to advocate their respective positions relating to the treatment and compensation for VoIP traffic and traffic utilizing in whole or part Internet Protocol technology before any state commission or the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") whether in bilateral complaint dockets, arbitrations under Section 252 of the Act, state commission or FCC established rulemaking dockets, or before any judicial or legislative body.

4.0 Miscellaneous

- 4.1 This Amendment will be effective on June 1, 2004 ("Effective Date"), contingent upon any necessary state commission approval; provided, however, the rates, terms and conditions relating to all ISP-Bound Traffic shall apply effective June 1, 2004 and the rates, terms and conditions relating to all Section 251(b)(5) Traffic shall apply effective ten (10) days after approval of the Amendment.
- 4.2 To the extent that compensation for intercarrier traffic on or after June 1, 2004 was already billed and/or paid prior to the time that the state commission approved this Amendment, the Parties agree to implement any adjustments, reimbursements, or other "true ups" necessary to make the rates and terms set forth in this Amendment effective for all traffic terminated on and after June 1, 2004.
- 4.3 This Amendment is coterminous with the underlying Interconnection Agreement and does not extend the term or change the termination provisions of the underlying Interconnection Agreement.
- 4.4 EXCEPT AS MODIFIED HEREIN, ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE UNDERLYING INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT SHALL REMAIN UNCHANGED AND IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.
- 4.5 Every rate, term and condition of this Amendment is legitimately related to the other rates, terms and conditions in this Amendment. Without limiting the general applicability of the foregoing, the change of law provisions of the underlying Interconnection Agreement, including but not limited to the "Intervening Law" or "Change of Law" or "Regulatory Change" section of the General Terms and Conditions of the Interconnection Agreement and as modified in this Amendment, are specifically agreed by the Parties to be legitimately related to, and inextricably intertwined with this the other rates, terms and conditions of this Amendment.

- 4.6 In entering into this Amendment and carrying out the provisions herein, neither Party waives, but instead expressly reserves, all of its rights, remedies and arguments with respect to any orders, decisions, legislation or proceedings and any remands thereof and any other federal or state regulatory, legislative or judicial action(s), including, without limitation, its intervening law rights (including intervening law rights asserted by either Party via written notice predating this Amendment) relating to the following actions, which the Parties have not yet fully incorporated into this Agreement or which may be the subject of further government review: *Verizon v. FCC*, et. al, 535 U.S. 467 (2002); *USTA v. FCC*, 290 F.3d 415 (D.C. Cir. 2002) and following remand and appeal, *USTA v. FCC*, 359 F.3d 554 (D.C. Cir. 2004); the FCC's Triennial Review Order, CC Docket Nos. 01-338, 96-98, and 98-147 (FCC 03-36), and the FCC's Biennial Review Proceeding; the FCC's Supplemental Order Clarification (FCC 00-183) (rel. June 2, 2000), in CC Docket 96-98; and the FCC's Order on Remand and Report and Order in CC Dockets No. 96-98 and 99-68, 16 FCC Rcd 9151 (2001), (rel. April 27, 2001) ("ISP Compensation Order"), which was remanded in *WorldCom, Inc. v. FCC*, 288 F.3d 429 (D.C. Cir. 2002), and as to the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking as to Intercarrier Compensation, CC Docket 01-92 (Order No. 01-132) (rel. April 27, 2001) (collectively "Government Actions"). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement (including this and any other amendments to the Agreement), SBC Missouri shall have no obligation to provide UNEs, combinations of UNEs, combinations of UNE(s) and CLEC's own elements or UNEs in commingled arrangements beyond those required by the Act, including the lawful and effective FCC rules and associated FCC and judicial orders. Further, neither Party will argue or take the position before any state or federal regulatory commission or court that any provisions set forth in this Agreement and this Amendment constitute an agreement or waiver relating to the appropriate routing, treatment and compensation for Voice Over Internet Protocol traffic and/or traffic utilizing in whole or part Internet Protocol technology; rather, each Party expressly reserves any rights, remedies, and arguments they may have as to such issues including but not limited, to any rights each may have as a result of the FCC's Order *In the Matter of Petition for Declaratory Ruling that AT&T's Phone-to-Phone IP Telephony Services are Exempt from Access Charges*, WC Docket No. 02-361 (rel. April 21, 2004). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Agreement and this Amendment and except to the extent that SBC Missouri has adopted the FCC ISP terminating compensation plan ("FCC Plan") in Missouri and the Parties have incorporated rates, terms and conditions associated with the FCC Plan into this Agreement, these rights also include but are not limited to SBC Missouri's right to exercise its option at any time to adopt on a date specified by SBC Missouri the FCC Plan, after which date ISP-bound traffic will be subject to the FCC Plan's prescribed terminating compensation rates, and other terms and conditions, and seek conforming modifications to this Agreement. If any action by any state or federal regulatory or legislative body or court of competent jurisdiction invalidates, modifies, or stays the enforcement of laws or regulations that were the basis or rationale for any rate(s), term(s) and/or condition(s) ("Provisions") of the Agreement and this Amendment and/or otherwise affects the rights or obligations of either Party that are addressed by the Agreement and this Amendment, specifically including but not limited to those arising with respect to the Government Actions, the affected Provision(s) shall be immediately invalidated, modified or stayed consistent with the action of the regulatory or legislative body or court of competent jurisdiction upon the written request of either Party ("Written Notice"). With respect to any Written Notices hereunder, the Parties shall have sixty (60) days from the Written Notice to attempt to negotiate and arrive at an agreement on the appropriate conforming modifications to the Agreement. If the Parties are unable to agree upon the conforming modifications required within sixty (60) days from the Written Notice, any disputes between the Parties concerning the interpretation of the actions required or the provisions affected by such order shall be resolved pursuant to the dispute resolution process provided for in this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Reciprocal Compensation Amendment for ISP-Bound Traffic and Federal Telecommunications Act Section 251(b)(5) Traffic (Adopting FCC Interim Terminating Compensation Plan) to the Interconnection Agreement was exchanged in triplicate on this 27th day of September, 2004, by SBC Missouri, signing by and through its duly authorized representative, and CARRIER, signing by and through its duly authorized representative.

Phone-Link, Inc.

Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P. d/b/a SBC Missouri
by SBC Telecommunications, Inc., its authorized agent

Signature: Annette Lee Delwit

Signature: Kathy J. Wilkinson

Name: Annette Lee Delwit
(Print or Type)

Name: Kathy J. Wilkinson
(Print or Type)

Title: VP/GM
(Print or Type)

Title: For/ Senior Vice President - Industry Markets
& Diversified Businesses

Date: 9-15-04

Date: 9/27/04

FACILITIES-BASED OCN #

ACNA PHK